

# THE UNIVERD SHAYES OF AMERICA

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE: PRESENTS: SHALL COME?

ProCene Plant Research, F.F.C.

THERE HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE

# Secretary of Agriculture

AN APPLICATION REQUESTING A CERTIFICATE OF PROTECTION FOR AN ALLEGED DISTINCT VARIETY OF SEXUALLY REPRODUCED, OR TUBER PROPAGATED PLANT, THE NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN THE APPLICATION AND EXHIBITS, A COPY OF WHICH IS HEREUNTO ANNEXED AND MADE A PART HEREOF, AND THE VARIOUS REQUIREMENTS OF LAW IN SUCH CASES MADE AND PROVIDED HAVE BEEN COMPLIED WITH, AND THE TITLE THERETO IS, FROM THE RECORDS OF THE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE, IN THE APPLICANT(S) INDICATED IN THE SAID COPY, AND WHEREAS, UPON DUE EXAMINATION MADE, THE SAID APPLICANT(S) IS (ARE) ADJUDGED TO BE ENTITLED TO A CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW.

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION IS TO GRANT UNTO THE SAID APPLICANT(S) AND THE SUCCESSORS, HEIRS OR ASSIGNS OF THE SAID APPLICANT(S) FOR THE TERM OF TWENTY YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THIS GRANT, SUBJECT TO THE PAYMENT OF THE REQUIRED FEES AND PERIODIC REPLENISHMENT OF VIABLE BASIC SEED OF THE VARIETY IN A PUBLIC REPOSITORY AS PROVIDED BY LAW, THE PIGHT TO EXCLUDE OTHERS FROM SELLING THE VARIETY, OR OFFERING IT FOR SALE, OR REPRODUCING IT, OR CARTING IT, OR EXPORTING IT, OR CONDITIONING IT FOR PROPAGATION, OR STOCKING IT FOR ANY OF THE PURPOSES, OR USING IT IN PRODUCING A HYBRID OR DIFFERENT VARIETY THEREFROM, TO THE EXTENT TO BY THE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION ACT. (84 STAT. 1542, AS AMENDED, 7 U.S.C. 2321 ET SEQ.)

PEA, FIELD

'Whistler'

In Jestimonn Macrest, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Hunt Haristy Protection Office to be affixed at the City of Washington, D.C. this twenty-ninth day of June, in the year two thousand and seven.

Allost.

Bergue

Commissioner
Plant Variety Protection Office
Agricultural Marketing Service

Johnne g of Agriculture

REPRODUCE LOCALLY. Include form number and date on all reproductions  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  The following statements are made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a)										
U.S. DEPARTME AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - F	The following statements are made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995,									
APPLICATION FOR PLANT VA	Application is required in order to determine if a plant variety protection certificate is to be issued (7 U.S.C. 2421). Information is held confidential until certificate is issued (7 U.S.C. 2426).									
1. NAME OF OWNER	÷		TEMPORARY DESIGNATION     EXPERIMENTAL NAME	ON OR 3	. VAF	ETY NAM	ME .			
ProGene Plant Research, L.L.C.			WPX 90105-9	I Whietler						
4. ADDRESS (Street and No., or R.F.D. No., City,	State, and ZIP Co	de, and Country)	5. TELEPHONE (include area	5. TELEPHONE (include area code) FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY						
860 S. Crestline			(509) 488-3977	509) 488-3977 <b>200 5 0 0 3 4</b>						
Othello, WA 99355			6. FAX (include area code)	5. FAX (include area code) 200500341						
			(509) 488-5289	F	FILING DATE					
7. IF THE OWNER NAMED IS NOT A "PERSON".		8. IF INCORPORATED, GIVE		9. DATE OF INCORPORATION						
ORGANIZATION (corporation, partnership, association, etc.)  STATE OF INCORPORATION			( ) ( 365/							
Limited Liability Company					<i>ا</i> د	ept.	6,2005			
10. NAME AND ADDRESS OF OWNER REPRESI	ENTATIVE(S) TO S	SERVE IN THIS APPLICATION. (Firs	t person listed will receive all papers	s)	шшч		AND EXAMINATION FEES:			
Kurt Braunwart 860 S. Crestline					S		52º			
Othello, WA 99344					R E	CERTIF	91612005 CATION FEE:			
					C E I	s 70	768.∞			
					V E	DATE				
AL TELEPHONE (Lab.)	T 40 = 1 1/4 1				D		6/22/2007			
11. TELEPHONE (Include area code) (509) 488-3977	12. FAX (Includ	•	progene@cbnn.net	13. E-MAIL						
14. CROP KIND (Common Name)	16. FAMILY NA			18, DOES THE VARIETY CONTAIN ANY TRANSGENES? (OPTIONAL)						
Field Pea (winter pea)	   Leguminosa	e		☐ YES ☑ NO						
15. GENUS AND SPECIES NAME OF CROP	17. IS THE VAR	RIETY A FIRST GENERATION HYBE		IF SO, PLEASE GIVE THE ASSIGNED USDA-APHIS REFERENCE NUMBER FOR THE APPROVED PETITION TO DEREGULATE THE GENETICALLY MODIFIED PLANT FOR						
Pisum Sativum	☐ YES			COMMERICALIZATION.						
19. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX FOR EACH ATTA (Follow instructions on reverse)	ACHMENT SUBMI	TTED		20. DOES THE OWNER SPECIFY THAT SEED OF THIS VARIETY BE SOLD AS A CLASS OF CERTIFIED SEED? (See Section 83(a) of the Plant Variety Protection Act)						
a. 📝 Exhibit A. Origin and Breeding History	of the Variety			YES (If "yes", answer items 21 and 22 below)  NO (If "no", go to item 23)						
b. 📝 Exhibit B. Statement of Distinctness				21. DOES THE OWNER SPECIFY THAT SEED OF THIS VARIETY BE LIMITED AS TO NUMBER OF CLASSES?						
c. 📝 Exhibit C. Objective Description of Var	iety		☐ YES ☑ NO							
d. Exhibit D. Additional Description of the	Variety (Optional)		IF YES, WHICH CLASSES? ☐ FOUNDATION ☐ REGISTERED ☐ CERTIFIED							
e.  Exhibit E. Statement of the Basis of the	e Owner's Ownerst	hip	22. DOES THE OWNER SPECIFY THAT SEED OF THIS VARIETY BE LIMITED AS TO NUMBER OF GENERATIONS?							
f. Voucher Sample (2,500 viable untreate verification that tissue culture will be de	YES V NO									
verification that tissue culture will be deposited and maintained in an approved public repository)			IF YES, SPECIFY THE NUMBER 1,2,3, etc. FOR EACH CLASS.							
g. Filing and Examination Fee (\$3,652), made payable to "Treasurer of the United States" (Mail to the Plant Variety Protection Office)			☐ FOUNDATION	☐ FOUNDATION ☐ REGISTERED ☐ CERTIFIED						
				(If additional explanation is necessary, please use the space indicated on the reverse.)						
23. HAS THE VARIETY (INCLUDING ANY HARVESTED MATERIAL) OR A HYBRID PRODUCED FROM THIS VARIETY BEEN SOLD, DISPOSED OF, TRANSFERRED, OR USED IN THE U. S. OR OTHER COUNTRIES?				24. IS THE VARIETY OR ANY COMPONENT OF THE VARIETY PROTECTED BY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHT (PLANT BREEDER'S RIGHT OR PATENT)?						
YES NO			☐ YES ☑	YES / NO						
IF YES, YOU MUST PROVIDE THE DATE OF FIRST SALE, DISPOSITION, TRANSFER, OR USE FOR EACH COUNTRY AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES. (Please use space indicated on reverse.)			IF YES, PLEASE GIVE REFERENCE NUMBE	IF YES, PLEASE GIVE COUNTRY, DATE OF FILING OR ISSUANCE AND ASSIGNED REFERENCE NUMBER. (Please use space indicated on reverse.)						
25. The owners declare that a viable sample of basi a tuber propagated variety a tissue culture will be	c seed of the varie	ty has been furnished with application	n and will be replenished upon requ	est in accord	iance v	with such r	egulations as may be applicable, or for			
				new distinct	unifor	m and sta	able as required in Section 42, and is			
The undersigned owner(s) is(are) the owner of this sexually reproduced or tuber propagated plant variety, and believe(s) that the variety is new, distinct, uniform, and stable as required in Section 42, and is entitled to protection under the provisions of Section 42 of the Plant Variety Protection Act.										
Owner(s) is (are) informed that false representation herein can jeopardize protection and result in penalties.										
SIGNATURE OF OWNER	SIGNATURE OF OWNER	ATURE OF OWNER								
NAME (Please print of type) NAME (Please print of type)			NAME (Please point or hose)							
Kurt Braunwart	NAME (Please print or type)	e i rome hist a (Aha)								
CAPACITY OR TITLE	DATE		CAPACITY OR TITLE	D.A	ATE					
Managing Owner	1 6	7-2-05								
Thursday of Services										

#### INSTRUCTIONS

GENERAL: To be effectively filed with the Plant Variety Protection Office (PVPO), ALL of the following items must be received in the PVPO: (1) Completed application form signed by the owner; (2) completed exhibits A, B, C, E; (3) for a seed reproduced variety at least 2,500 viable untreated seeds, for a hybrid variety at least 2,500 untreated seeds of each line necessary to reproduce the variety, or for tuber reproduced varieties verification that a viable (in the sense that it will reproduce an entire plant) tissue culture will be deposited and maintained in an approved public repository; (4) check drawn on a U.S. bank for \$3,652 (\$432 filing fee and \$3,220 examination fee), payable to "Treasurer of the United States" (See Section 97.6 of the Regulations and Rules of Practice.) Partial applications will be held in the PVPO for not more than 90 days, then returned to the applicant as unfiled. Mail application and other requirements to Plant Variety Protection Office, AMS, USDA, Room 401, NAL Building, 10301 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705-2351. Retain one copy for your files. All items on the face of the application are self explanatory unless noted below. Corrections on the application form and exhibits must be initialed and dated. DO NOT use masking materials to make corrections. If a certificate is allowed, you will be requested to send a check payable to "Treasurer of the United States" in the amount of \$432 for issuance of the certificate. Certificates will be issued to owner, not licensee or agent.

#### Plant Variety Protection Office Telephone: (301) 504-5518 FAX: (301) 504-5291

Homepage: http://www.ams.usda.gov/science/pvpo/pvpindex.htm

To avoid conflict with other variety names in use, the applicant must check the appropriate recognized authority and provide evidence that name has been cleared by the appropriate recognized authority before the Certificate of Protection is issued. For example, for agricultural and vegetable crops, contact: Seed Branch, AMS, USDA, 10301 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 401 NAL Building, Beltsville, MD 20705. Telephone: (301) 504-5682 http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsg/seed.htm.

#### ITEM

19a. Give:

- (1) the genealogy, including public and commercial varieties, lines, or clones used, and the breeding method;
- (2) the details of subsequent stages of selection and multiplication;
- (3) evidence of uniformity and stability; and
- (4) the type and frequency of variants during reproduction and multiplication and state how these variants may be identified
- 19b. Give a summary of the variety's distinctness. Clearly state how this application variety may be distinguished from all other varieties in the same crop. If the new variety is most similar to one variety or a group of related varieties:
  - (1) identify these varieties and state all differences objectively;
  - (2) attach statistical data for characters expressed numerically and demonstrate that these are clear differences; and
  - (3) submit, if helpful, seed and plant specimens or photographs (prints) of seed and plant comparisons which clearly indicate distinctness.
- 19c. Exhibit C forms are available from the PVPO Office for most crops; specify crop kind. Fill in Exhibit C (Objective Description of Variety) form as completely as possible to describe your variety.
- 19d. Optional additional characteristics and/or photographs. Describe any additional characteristics that cannot be accurately conveyed in Exhibit C. Use comparative varieties as is necessary to reveal more accurately the characteristics that are difficult to describe, such as plant habit, plant color, disease resistance, etc.
- 19e. Section 52(5) of the Act requires applicants to furnish a statement of the basis of the applicant's ownership. An Exhibit E form is available from the PVPO.
- 20. If "Yes" is specified (seed of this variety be sold by variety name only, as a class of certified seed), the applicant MAY NOT reverse this affirmative decision after the variety has been sold and so labeled, the decision published, or the certificate issued. However, if "No" has been specified, the applicant may change the choice. (See Regulations and Rules of Practice, Section 97.103).
- 23. See Sections 41, 42, and 43 of the Act and Section 97.5 of the regulations for eligibility requirements.
- 24. See Section 55 of the Act for instructions on claiming the benefit of an earlier filing date.
- 22. CONTINUED FROM FRONT (Please provide a statement as to the limitation and sequence of generations that may be certified.)
- 23. CONTINUED FROM FRONT (Please provide the date of first sale, disposition, transfer, or use for each country and the circumstances, if the variety (including any harvested material) or a hybrid produced from this variety has been sold, disposed of, transferred, or used in the U.S. or other countries.)

September 10, 2004 Central Washington Grain Growers, Wilbur, Washington, USA for testing of the variety.

24. CONTINUED FROM FRONT (Please give the country, date of filing or issuance, and assigned reference number, if the variety or any component of the variety is protected by intellectual property right (Plant Breeder's Right or Patent).)

NOTES: It is the responsibility of the applicant/owner to keep the PVPO informed of any changes of address or change of ownership or assignment or owner's representative during the life of the application/certificate. The fees for filing a change of address; owner's representative; ownership or assignment; or any modification of owner's name is specified in Section 97.175 of the regulations. (See Section 101 of the Act, and Sections 97.130, 97.131, 97.175(h) of the Regulations and Rules of Practice.)

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0581-0055. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1.4 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital or family status, political beliefs, parental status, or protected genetic information. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

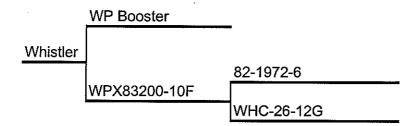
To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# Whistler

#### Exhibit A

Whistler was derived during the winter of 1990-1991 in the greenhouse by the following cross.

WP Booster X WPX832000-10F



WP Booster is a winter pea developed in Europe.

82-1972-6 is a breeding line of Rogers Brothers Seed Co.

WHC-26-12G is a breeding line from Dick Auld when he was at the University of Idaho.

### **Details of Development**

Generation	Year	Stock #	Amount	Selection Criteria
F1	1991	91-GH-076		No criteria used; bulked
F2	1992	92-DP2002		No criteria used; bulked
F3	1993	93WPF302		No criteria used; bulked
F4	1996	96S4106	12 SPS's	Maturity, Pod load, Lodging, & Determinancy
F5	1997	97WS5252	1#	Yield, Maturity, Lodging, & Winter hardiness
F6	1998	98WB6238	14#	Yield, Maturity, Lodging, & Winter hardiness
F7	1999	99WS9096	7#	Yield, Maturity, Lodging, & Winter hardiness
F8	2000	00WS9009	3#	Yield, Maturity, Lodging, & Winter hardiness
F9	2001	01WS9108	32#	Yield, Maturity, Lodging, & Winter hardiness
F10	2002	02WS90343	395#	Yield, Maturity, Lodging, & Winter hardiness
F11	2003	Lot 5 SBA	5980#	Yield, Maturity, Lodging, & Winter hardiness

Whistler was also tested as WPX90105-9.

Lot 5 SBA has been increased to commerical size quanties. It has been observed through the F13 generation and has been uniform and stable with no variants seen.

## **Whistler**

#### Exhibit B

Whistler is most similar to the winter pea Granger, however Whistler differs in the following ways.

- 1. Whistler has a white flower whereas Granger has a purple colored flower.
- 2. Whistler has a yellow green seed coat color whereas Granger has a black speckled seed coat.

Form Approved OMB NO 0581-0055 REPRODUCE LOCALLY. Include form number and date on all reproductions.

Form Approved OMB NO USSI-USS

COMPRESSION FOR THE PRODUCE LOCALLY. Include form number and date on all reproductions. O CO DECISION SALE EN CALIFORNIA COMBIGUIOU REPRESENTATION DU LA PROPRIO DE COMBINADO DE COMPANTO D THE REPORTED FOR THE STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF **Exhibit C** U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE **AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE** SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY **PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE BELTSVILLE, MD 20705** OBJECTIVE DESCRIPTION OF VARIETY Pea (Pisum sativum L.) NAME OF APPLICANT (S) TEMPORARY OR EXPERIMENTAL DESIGNATION VARIETY NAME PROGENE, LLC WHISTLER WPX 90105-9 ADDRESS (Street and No. or RD No., City, State, Zip Code and Country) PVPO NUMBER 860 S. CRESTLINE OTHELLO, WA PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY: Place the appropriate number that describes the varietal character of this variety in the boxes below. Place a zero in the first box (e.g., | 0 | 9 | 9 | or | 0 | 9 |) when the number is either 99 or less or 9 or less respectively. Data for quantitative plant characters should be based on a minimum of 100 plants. Comparative data should be determined from varieties entered in the same trial. Royal Horticultural Society or any recognized color standard may be used to determine plant colors; designate system used: ROYAL HORTICULTURE SOCIETY answer all questions for your variety; lack of response may delay progress of your application. 1. TYPE: 2 1 = Garden 2 = Field3 = Edible-podded 4 = Other (Specify) \_\_\_ 2. MATURITY: Node Number of First Bloom: No. of Days Processing Heat Units No. of Days Earlier Than 1 = Alaska 2 = Thomas Laxton WR 3 = Little Marvel Days Same As 4 = Wando 5 = Alderman WR 6 = Australian Winter No. of Days Later Than 7 = Other (Specify) ... 3. PLANT HEIGHT: cm High Name of Check Cultivar GRANGER cm Shorter Than Same As Same as Check Cultivar \_ cm Taller Than Name of Check Cultivar \_\_\_ 4. VINE Habit: 1 = Determinate 2 = Indeterminate

1 = None (Alaska)

1 = Slim (Alaska)

1 = Straight

2 = 1-2 Branches (Little Marvel)

2 = Medium (Thomas Laxton WR)

2 = Zig Zag

3 = More than 2 Branches (Dwarf Gray Sugar)

Number of Nodes

3 = Heavy (Alderman)

Branching:

Internodes:

Stockiness:

9.	SEED	S: (Dry-Mature)				Onn	<b>E</b> 4	9 <i>6</i> 9	er S	s	â
	4	Shape: 1 = Flattened 2 = Angular 3 :	= Oval 4 = Ro	ounded	•	200	9 (	J		22	Orași (
	7	Surface: 1 = Smooth 2 = Dimpled 3 = Wrinkled	2	Luster:	1 = Shiny 2 = Dul	I					
	2	Color Pattern: 1 = Monocolor 2 = Mon	ttled 3 =	Striped 4 =	Dotted						
	3	Secondary Color: 9 = Red 16	= Cream & Gree = Blue Green 0 = Gray 4 = Tan	n 3 = Light Green 7 = Yelfow 11 = Black 15 = White	4 = Medium Green 8 = Brown 12 = Salmon 16 = Pink						
	2	Hilum Color: 1 = White 2 = Tan	3 = Black		7						
	2	Cotyledon Color: 1 = Green 2 = Yellow	/ 3 = Orange	4 = Cream							
	15	Grams per 100 Seeds									
10.	DISE	ASE: (0 = Not Tested, 1 = Susceptible, 2 = Resistant	, 3 = Moderately	Resistant, 4 = Mode	erately Susceptible, 5 = 1	olerant)			*************		
	2	Fusarium Wilt – Race 1	0	Fusarium Wilt (Ne							
		Ascochyta Blight	0	Common Mosaic							
	0	Bacterial Blight		Pea Enation Mosa	ic Virus						
	0	Downy Mildew	٥	Seadborne Mosaid	Virus						
	<u> </u>	Powdery Mildew	0	Yellow Bean Mosa	ic Virus						
	Ļ	Other (Specify)	0	Leaf Roll Virus							
	L_	Other (Specify)		Other (Specify)							
11. INSECT: (0 = Not Tested, 1 = Susceptible, 2 = Resistant, 3 = Moderately Resistant, 4 = Moderately Susceptible, 5 = Tolerant)											
	0	Aphids		Other (Specify)		<u> </u>					

12. Additional informtion on any item above, or general comments that may aid in identification:

REPRODUCE LOCALLY. Include form number and edition date on all	reproductions.	FORM APPROVED - OMB No. 0581-005
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE	Application is required in order to d certificate is to be issued (7 U.S.C.	etermine if a plant variety protection
EXHIBIT E STATEMENT OF THE BASIS OF OWNERSHIP	confidential until the certificate is is	
1. NAME OF APPLICANT(S)	2. TEMPORARY DESIGNATION	3. VARIETY NAME
	OR EXPERIMENTAL NUMBER	o. value i i ivani
ProGene Plant Research L.L.C.	WPX90105-9	Whistler
4. ADDRESS (Street and No., or R.F.D. No., City, State, and ZIP, and Country)	5. TELEPHONE (Include area code)	6. FAX (Include area code)
860 S Crestline	(509) 488-3977	(509) 488-5289
Othello, WA 99344	7. PVPO NUMBER 200	500341
8. Does the applicant own all rights to the variety? Mark an "X" in the	appropriate block. If no, please exp	olain. YES NO
•		<u> </u>
9. Is the applicant (individual or company) a U.S. national or a U.S. b	ased company? If no, give name of	country. YES NO
10. Is the applicant the original owner? YES	NO If no, please answer on	e of the following:
a. If the original rights to variety were owned by individual(s), is ( YES  b. If the original rights to variety were owned by a company(ies), YES	NO If no, give name of cou	ntry pased company?
11. Additional explanation on ownership (Trace ownership from origin	nal breeder to current owner. Use the	reverse for extra space if needed):
•		
•		
PLEASE NOTE:		
Plant variety protection can only be afforded to the owners (not licens	ees) who meet the following criteria:	
If the rights to the variety are owned by the original breeder, that penational of a country which affords similar protection to nationals of	erson must be a U.S. national, national the U.S. for the same genus and spe	al of a UPOV member country, or cies.
<ol><li>If the rights to the variety are owned by the company which employ nationals of a UPOV member country, or owned by nationals of a c genus and species.</li></ol>	red the original breeder(s), the compa ountry which affords similar protection	ny must be U.S. based, owned by to nationals of the U.S. for the same
3. If the applicant is an owner who is not the original owner, both the o	original owner and the applicant must	meet one of the above criteria.
The original breeder/owner may be the individual or company who din Act for definitions.	ected the final breeding. See Section	41(a)(2) of the Plant Variety Protection
According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0581-0055, including the time for reviewing the instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering as	The time required to complete this information col.	lection is estimated to average 0.1 hour per response,

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital or family status, political beliefs, parental status, or protected genetic information. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provide and employer.

